

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel Claims 2, 11-12, 14-15, 19 and 21-35 without prejudice. Please accept amended Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 13, 16-18 and 20 and new Claim 36 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium embodying a program of instructions executable by a processor to perform a method for deploying computer infrastructure, comprising integrating computer-readable code into a computing system, wherein the code in combination with the computing system is capable of performing deriving knowledge from parameters and data, the method comprising:

identifying inferencing aspects for a program; and
providing the identified inferencing aspects as inferencing components, wherein the inferencing components are externalizable

evaluating the data of an externalized inferencing component in the presence of the parameters passed by a trigger point within the program of instructions to perform an inference, wherein the externalized inferencing component is in communication with the program of instructions, wherein the inference is a derivation of the knowledge; and

outputting the knowledge derived by the inference to the program of instructions.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein the data is stored in persistent memory.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~identified inferencing~~

aspects externalized inferencing component include at least one of a trigger point, a short term fact, an inference rule, an inference engine, a static variable mapping, a sensor, an effector, a long term fact, and a conclusion.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component include at least one of a trigger point component, a short term fact component, an inference rule set component, an inference engine component, a static mapping component, a sensor component, an effector component, a long term fact component, and a conclusion component.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~each of the~~ externalized inferencing component is one of a consumer of data provided by an inferencing component, a supplier of data provided by an inferencing component, and a combination thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of associating ~~at least one~~ the trigger point ~~inferencing component~~ with ~~at least one application~~ the program of instructions.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein trigger points operate either synchronously or asynchronously.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component is a master inferencing component that employs

at least one other ~~inferencing component~~ externalized inferencing component.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component employs an inferencing engine.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component is composed of at least one inferencing subcomponent.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein at least one of the inferencing components is shared~~ further comprising sharing the externalized inferencing component by reference with at least one other ~~inferencing component~~ externalized inferencing component.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein ~~at least one of the algorithms~~ the externalized inferencing component perform at least one of inferencing component creation, inferencing component retrieval, inferencing component update, and inferencing component deletion performs method steps to one of create, update and delete another externalized inferencing component.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein ~~at least one of the algorithms~~ an algorithm of the externalized inferencing component for performing the evaluation is shared by a plurality of ~~inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing components.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing wherein ~~the providing step~~ uses an inference component management facility to administer ~~inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing components, the administration including operations to create, retrieve, update, and delete.

21-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A system for executing a program of instructions in communication with an externalized inference component comprising:

a memory device storing data, the program of instructions and the externalized inference component;

a processor for receiving the data and executing the plurality of instructions and the externalized inference component to perform a method for deriving knowledge from the data comprising:

evaluating the data of an externalized inferencing component in the presence of the parameters passed by a trigger point within the program of instructions to perform an inference, wherein the externalized inferencing component is in communication with the

program of instructions, wherein the inference is a derivation of the knowledge; and
outputting the knowledge derived by the inference to the program of instructions.